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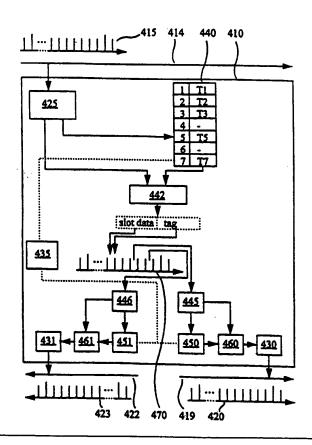
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(57) Abstract

The present invention refers to a method and an apparatus for switching data between bitstreams of a circuit switched synchronous time division multiplexing network. According to the invention, data read from a time slot of a first bitstream of said bitstreams is tagged with an identifier. For each one of at least a second and a third bitstream of said bitstreams it is then selected into which respective time slot thereof to transmit said data based upon said identifier.







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#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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#### PCT/SE 98/02360 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC6: H04Q 11/04, H04L 12/52, H04L 12/43 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC6: H04L, H04Q, H04J Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) WPIL, EDOC, INTERNET, INSPEC C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category\* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Υ WO 9736403 A1 (NET INSIGHT AB), 2 October 1997 1-12 (02.10.97), page 8, line 29 - page 10, line 15; page 11, line 32 - page 17, line 27; page 19, line 6 - page 21, line 24, figures 5,7,8,9, claims 1 - 39Υ. GB 2238934 A (ADAPTIVE CORPORATION), 12 June 1991 1-12 (12.06.91), page 5, line 19 - page 11, line 35, figure 3, claims 1-24 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. Special categories of cited documents: later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered the principle or theory underlying the invention to be of particular relevance erlier document but published on or after the international filing date document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 23 -06- 1999 <u> 18 June 1999</u> Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer Swedish Patent Office Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Erik Johannesson/MN Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86 Telephone No. + 46 8 782 25 00

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